(c) Instructions have been issued to the employees/officers to be polite to the customers and provide the New Telephone Connections within a month and clear the pending faults in a week's time. A further watch on their performance is being kept.

रियायती दर पर टेलीफोन सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए "ग्रामीण पैकेज"

1389. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रियायती दर पर टेलीफोन सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए प्रारम्भ किये गये "ग्रामीण पैकेज" की सरकारी घोषणा तथा इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा आदेश जारी करने के बावजूद इसे अभी तक कार्यान्वित नहीं किया जा सका; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और सरकार इस पैकेज को कब तक पूरी तरह कार्यान्वित कर देगी?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कबीन्द्र पुरकायस्थ) (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं। 22.11.95 को घोषित किए गए ग्रामीण दूरसंचार पैकेज में ग्रामीण उपभोक्ताओं की रियायती टैरिफ, मुफ्त कॉलों की संख्या में वृद्धि, कम पंजीकरण शुल्क और किराए इत्यादि की परिकल्पना की गई है।

ग्रामीण दूरसंचार पैकेज में परिकल्पित विभिन्न विशेषताओं की विभिन्न सर्किलों तथा मैट्रो जिलों के सभी स्थानों में कार्यान्वित कर दिया गया है।

Telecom factories under D.O.T.

1390. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom factories under DOT have large assets in different parts of the country;

(b if so, the details thereof togetherwith the number of employees and their present level of utilisation;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the level of utilisation is adversely affected by obsolesence of technology; and

(d) if so, the measures to be undertaken by Government for asset evaluation, modernisation, retraining of employees etc. and the details thereof towards a more productive use of these assets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) The details are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(c) The bulk of the equipment made are line materials such as Poles, Brackets, U-Backs etc, which are utilised in the 'last mile' of the telephone network. Due to enormous expansion of Public Switched Telephone Network, there is adequate demand for these materials for giving new connections. The factories are meeting the bulk of the requirement of the DOT in regard to line materials. Their capacities are being fully utilised. Efforts are also being made to diversify into new areas which are detailed in the following para.

(d) In order to diversify and modernise the Telecom factories, several new products viz. CT Box, DP Box, MDFs for C-DOT exchanges, Modems, 15M & 40M self supporting masts, 60/80 M Hybrid Tubular Towers, Support Brackets, CBT-95. Pay Phones etc. have been identified for manufacture replacing some of the obsolete products.

The employees have also been trained and redeployed on new products. Efforts are continuously made to gainfully utilise the surplus staff. It is proposed to introduce some more products to fully engage the manpower and for more productive use of the assets.

Statement

Details of Assets and Manpower in Telecom Factories with level of utilisation

Sl. No.	Telecom Factory	Assets (In Crores of Rs.)	Man Power	Level of utilisation of Manpower
1.	Mumbai	10.56	1540	83%
2.	Alipore, Calcutta	11.57	1545	93.5%